

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 11917 190850Z

13

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /067 W

----- 121055

R 190719Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7352

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MOPUTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 11917

E.O. 11652: N/A

TARS: PFOR, RH, NI

SUBJECT: GARBA COMMENTS ON ZIMBABWE

REF: LAGOS 11360

1. EXTAFF COMMISSIONER GARBA, ADDRESSING JOURNALISTS AT AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM UNGA LATE EVENING OCTOBER 14, URGED ZIMBABWEAN NATIONALIST GROUPS TO FORGE UNITED FRONT FOR EFFECTIVE BARGAINING AT UPCOMING GENEVA CONFERENCE. HE WARNED NATIONALISTS AGAINST DOING ANYTHING TO CAUSE CONFERENCE TO FAIL. IF TALKS DID NOT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LAGOS 11917 190850Z

SUCCEED, SMITH WOULD BALME BLACK LEADERS FOR NOT BEING

PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE AND HIS REGIME WOULD BE GIVEN "A MEASURE OF LEGALITY". IN SUCH AN EVENT SMITH WOULD TRY END ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, A PLEA TO WHICH "BRITAIN AND AMERICA MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO SUCCUMB." COMMISSIONER EXPRESSED NIGERIAN UNHAPPINESS OVER LEADERSHIP "TUSSELE" AMONG NATIONALISTS, ADDING THAT "ALMOST DAILY WE HEAR THAT SOMEBODY HAS SHOT INTO PROMINENCE FROM VIRTUALLY NOWHERE AND THE NEXT DAY YOU HEAR THAT ANOTHER PERSON HAS GONE DOWN INTO OBSCURITY." REFERRING TO RECENT NKOMO AND MUGABA STATEMENTS, GARBA SAID BRITAIN MUST SIT AS CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SMITH SHOULD PARTICIPATE AS SEPARATE PARTY.

2. GARBA SAID FMG'S OCTOBER 3 STATEMENT (REFTEL) HAD FOCUSED ON "FLAWS AND LOOPHOLES IN ARRANGEMENT OF SO-CALLED DEAL HANDED DOWN TO IAN SMITH BY BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES." HE DEFINED NIGERIA'S PRESENT ATTITUDE ON MATTER AS ONE OF "WAIT AND SEE."

5. COMMENT: IN CONTRAST WITH RECENT INTELLIGENCE REPORT, GARBA'S REMARKS AND MODERATE TONE INDICATE FMG STILL ENTERTAINS SOME HOPE THAT GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL SUCCEED AND THAT CHANGE CAN BE ACHIEVED PEACEFULLY IN ZIMBABWE. NIGERIANS OBVIOUSLY UNHAPPY OVER NATIONALIST LEADERSHIP SQUABBLING BOTH BECAUSE IT JEOPARDIZES NEGOTIATIONS AND BECAUSE FMG DESIROUS OF AVOIDING ANOTHER ANGOLA IN RHODESIA (LAGOS A-128, OCTOBER 15, 1976). SQUABBLING ALSO MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR FMG IDENTIFY AND GET BEHIND A PROBABLE WINNER.
EASUM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAGOS11917
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760391-0885
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761038/aaaabgob.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LAGOS 11360
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GARBA COMMENTS ON ZIMBABWE
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, RH, NI, US, UK, XA, (GARBA, JOSEPH N)
To: STATE ABIDJAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006